

REMARKS

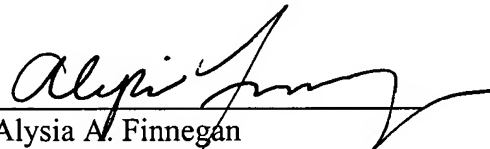
Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments.

The Specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to related applications PCT/US2004/008677, international filing date of March 19, 2004, which claims priority to U.S. Serial No. 60/457,172, filed March 24, 2003.

Applicants assert all claims are in condition for allowance and a favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be of value, he is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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